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P56378**AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS**

No claims has been amended in this Reply.

1 1. (Previously Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles, comprising:
3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
5 in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon
6 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the
7 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than
8 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 2. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, further comprised of the viscosity of the hydrocarbon
3 oil being 67.8 cSt at 40° C.

1 3.(Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, further comprised of the flash point of the
3 hydrocarbon oil being at 240°C.

1 4. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the

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2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, further comprised of the copolymer being a triblock
3 copolymer of "Kraton® G 1652".

1 5. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, further comprised of the hydrocarbon oil being 83.8
3 weight percent and the at least one copolymer being 16.2 weight percent of the mixture of the
4 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

1 6. (Previously Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles, comprising:
3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
5 in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the
6 weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and
7 the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and
the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 7. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, further comprised of the viscosity of the hydrocarbon
3 oil being 67.8 cSt at 40° C.

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1 8. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, further comprised of the flash point of the
3 hydrocarbon oil being at 240°C.

1 9. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, further comprised of the copolymer being a triblock
3 copolymer of "Kraton® G 1652".

10-14. (Canceled)

1 15. (Previously Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles, consisting essentially of:

3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
5 in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the
6 weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and
7 the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and
the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 16. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition as set forth
2 in claim 15, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer is

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3 16.2 weight percent of the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

17-20. (Canceled)

1 21. (Previously Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:

2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and

3 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
4 in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon
5 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the
6 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than
7 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C, the candle
8 maintaining a free standing condition even when the candle is lit by means of a flame produced as
9 consequence of the combustion of a candlewick that extends through the candle and projects toward
10 outside an end of the candle.

1 22. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprised of the
2 candlewick being a cotton string imbibed in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

1 23. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprised of the
2 candlewick being firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole being produced in the candle
3 when the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room temperature, the passing hole

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4 extending through the candle in longitudinal correspondence to an axis of symmetry etending from
5 a lower base of the candle.

1 24. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further
2 comprised of the candle being formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the
3 minor portions being individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75
4 to about 88 in weight percent and the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock
5 polymers and diblock polymers in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 weight percent, the
6 weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in
7 relation to the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the
8 hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being
9 greater than 220°C.

1 25. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:
2 coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 26.(Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:
2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

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1 27. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:
2 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the
3 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 28. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1 29. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 28, further comprised of the
2 decorative elements being arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a portion of the candle
3 adjacent to the candlewick.

1 30. (Original) The candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprised of the hydrocarbon oil
2 being 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer being 16.2 weight percent of the mixture
3 including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

1 31. (Previously Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and
3 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
4 in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the
5 weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and

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6 the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and
7 the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C, the candle maintaining a free
8 standing condition even when the candle is lit by means of a flame produced as consequence of the
9 combustion around a candlewick borne by the candle.

1 32. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprised of the
2 candlewick being a cotton string imbibed in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

1 33. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further
2 comprised of the candlewick being firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole being produced
3 in the candle when the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room temperature, the
4 passing hole extending through the candle in longitudinal correspondence to an axis of symmetry
5 extending from a lower base of the candle.

1 34. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further
2 comprised of the candle being formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the
3 minor portions being individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in
4 weight percent and the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and
5 diblock polymers in a proportion of from 12 to 27 weight percent, the weight percent of the
6 hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to the mixture
7 of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being

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8 greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 35. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising
2 coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 36. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising
2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 37. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising
2 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the
3 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 38. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1 39. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 38, further comprised of the
2 decorative elements being arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a portion of the candle
3 adjacent to the candlewick.

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40. (Canceled)

1 41. (Previously added) A process of manufacturing a transparent, elastic and free standing
2 candle body, comprising the steps of:

3 preparing a mixture comprising a hydrocarbon oil and at least one copolymer selected from
4 the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock polymers, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is in
5 a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is greater
6 than 32 cSt at 40°C, and a flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C, and said at least
7 one copolymer is in a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent;

8 stirring the mixture to make the mixture transparent;

9 pouring the mixture in a mold;

10 cooling the mixture in the mold to produce a candle body, and

11 demolding the candle body from the mold to obtain a transparent, elastic and free standing
12 candle body.

1 42. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the viscosity of the hydrocarbon
2 oil is 67.8 cSt at 40° C.

1 43. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the flash point of the hydrocarbon
2 oil is at 240 °C.

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1 44. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the copolymer is a triblock
2 copolymer of "Kraton® G 1652".

1 45. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight
2 percent and said at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture.

1 46. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the stirring step is conducted at a
2 temperature ranging from 80 °C to 160 °C.

3 47. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at
4 the pouring step is in the range from 150 °C to 160 °C to provide the clear and transparent candle
5 body.

6 48. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at
7 the pouring step is in the range from 100 °C to 120 °C to provide the candle body having air bubbles.

8 49. (Previously added) The process of claim 41, further comprising the step of:
9 before the cooling step, placing a decorative element in the mold.

1 50. (Previously added) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition, comprising:
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and

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3 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
4 in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon
5 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the
6 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than
7 32cSt at 40°C, with said hydrocarbon oil and said copolymer combined to provide an elastic mass
8 that remains free standing while bearing a flame from combustion of said elastic mass.

1 51. (Previously added)The transparent, elastic and free standing composition of claim 50,
2 wherein a flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C.